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Daily News (Bowling Green, KY)

## Butler man named Farmer of the Year

DOUG WATERS, The Daily News. dwaters@bgdailynews.com Published: July 5, 2006

A Butler County farmer was named the state's Farmer of the Year by the Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Sam Moore, past president of the bureau from 1998 to 2005, was recognized for efficiency in farming practices, management skills, and leadership in state and national organizations, according to the bureau.

He will represent Kentucky in the Southeastern Farmer of the Year contest, in October in Georgia, he said.

"The judges from the national contest are coming in the first week of August to look at our operations," Moore said.

His yield records and prices for crops will be considered, he said.

"I don't expect to be chosen as the overall winner," Moore said. "(But) if it happened, it would certainly be an honor."

Moore, 62, said he's farmed his whole life and currently has about 2,600 acres of corn and soybeans. In addition, 400 Angus cows roam his land. He's also a partner in the Green River Feed Mill, a Morgantown supply store.

Moore and his wife, Helen, purchased their first farm – a 120-acre tract where they raised tobacco and assorted crops, and milked cows – in 1963.

The state contest weighs community activities heavily, he said.

The couple have been active members of several state and local farming committees. Moore has also served on the farm bureau's board of directors



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As a member of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, Moore helped negotiate a national settlement with tobacco companies, which pays annual installments – for the next 25 years, at least – to tobacco-producing states.

About \$220 million of the settlement was reinvested in the state agriculture industry to date, he said.

"I think we have really made a difference in the diversification of Kentucky agriculture," he said.

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